

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

C/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1008

AMEMBASSY LISBON

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SUBJECT: VISIT OF JOURNALIST VICTOR RIESEL

1. DURING HIS JULY 30, AUGUST 5 VISIT, SYNDICATED COLUMNIST VICTOR RIESEL COMPLETED HIS FULL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS WITH TOP LABOR AND MEDIA OFFICIALS ARRANGED BY THE EMBASSY AND INTERPRESS. BESIDES COORDINATION WITH INTERPRESS ON THE RIESEL PROGRAM, THE EMBASSY PROVIDED AIRPORT ASSISTANCE, DAILY NEWS BULLETINS, AND A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR WITH LEADING LABOR JOURNALISTS. AT A RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE P&C COUNSELOR IN HONOR OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE ARMITAGE, RIESEL ALSO MET NUMEROUS PROMINENT JOURNALISTS AND MFA OFFICIALS. EXCEPT FOR EMBASSY FUNCTIONS, MR. RIESEL WAS ACCOMPANIED BY AN INTERPRESS ESCORT THROUGHOUT HIS VISIT.

2. MR. RIESEL MET WITH STANISLAW MOJKOWSKI, PRESIDENT OF THE POLISH JOURNALISTS UNION; WLODZIMIERZ WISNIEWSKI, PRESIDENT OF THE POLISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; RICHARD POSPIESZYNSKI, SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL TRADE UNIONS COUNCIL; BOGDAN ROLINSKI, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, OF ZYCIE WARSZAWY, AND JANUSZ MOSZCZENSKI, INTERPRENK EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

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3. MR. RIESEL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH HIS POLISH VISIT,

ESPECIALLY IN GAINING INSIGHT INTO THE POLISH POSITION N INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS AND IN PRESENTING HIS VIEWS OF THE AMERICAN LABOR SCENE. THE CALIBER OF INDIVIDUALS TO WHOM HE HAD ACCESS ATTESTED TO THE POLISH AWARENESS OF RIESEL'S INFLUENTIAL ROLE IN AMERICAN LABOR AND POLITICS.

4. THE EMBASSY BELIVES THAT MR. RIESEL'S PRIVATE VISIT WAS VALUABLE IN INFORMING POLISH LABOR AND MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ABOUT THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT. HE EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATED THAT THE AMERICAN WORKER IS MORE INCLINED TO SUPPORT DETENTE THAN SOME PROMINENT LABOR LEADERS MIGHT SUGGEST. MR. RIESEL IS AN ENGAGING AND KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUAL TO WHOM THE POLES RESPONDED POSITIVELY AND WITH GENUINE INTEREST.
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